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# Independent Coal Review

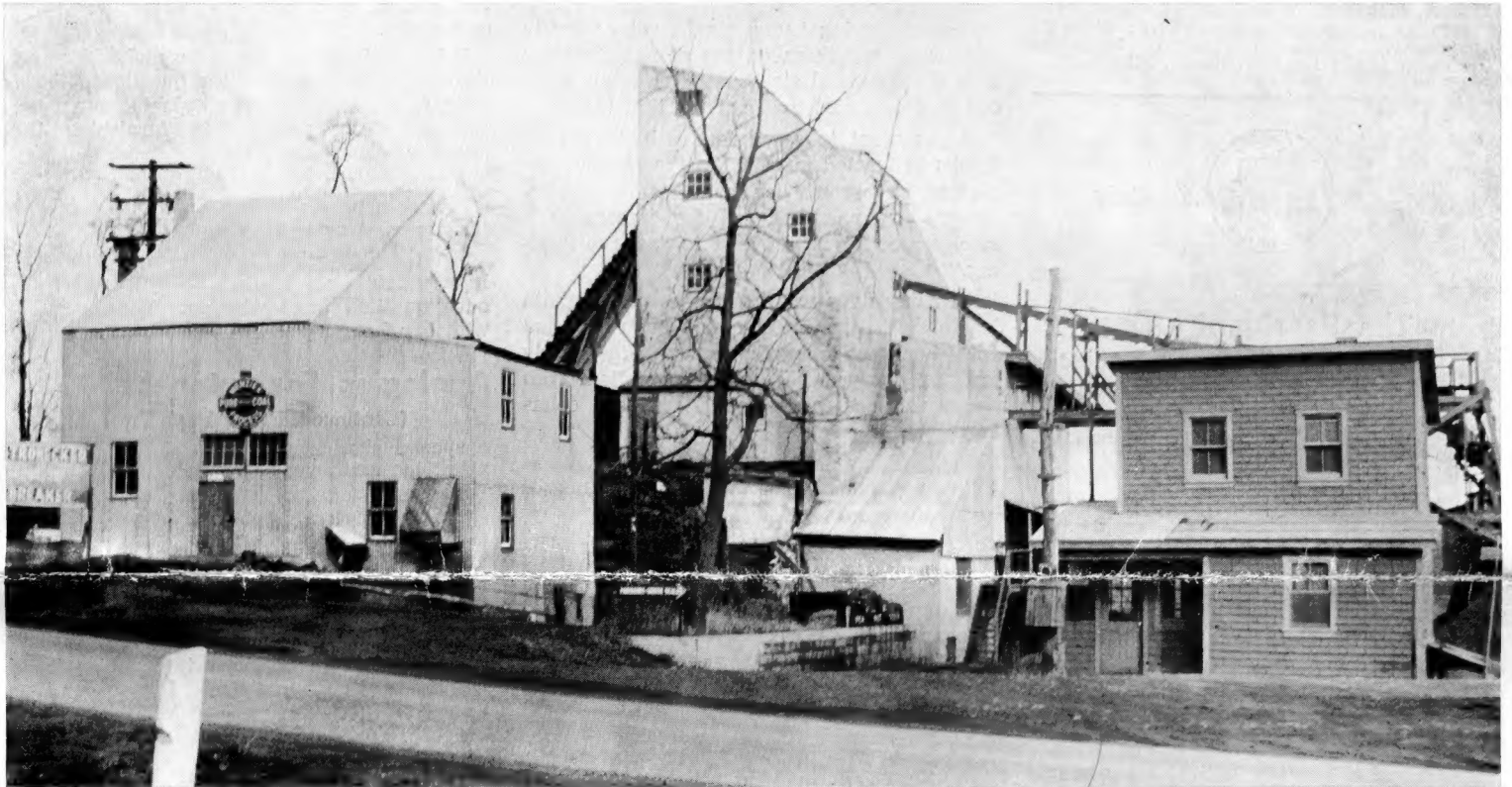
Published Monthly by Independent Miners and Associates by and for the Independents of the coal fields

Vol. 6—No. 1



JUNE 1962

Pottsville, Pa.



Pictured here is the Strohecker Coal Breaker situated in Elizabethville, Dauphin County. This is a modern Anthracite Preparation Plant recently constructed and utilizes the most advanced machinery that is available for the preparation of Anthracite for market. The plant itself is largely of steel construction. This plant in the process of preparing Anthracite for market makes use of a Menzies Heavy-Media separation vessel for the larger sizes of Anthracite. Finer sizes of Anthracite are prepared for market through a slow drag system of preparation. The Strohecker Coal Breaker is capable of producing approximately 600 tons of prepared anthracite per shift, and, usually produces this amount 5 or 6 days a week, 52 weeks out of the year. Strohecker Coal Breaker has in its employ 10 people. The coal which Strohecker Breaker prepares for market is purchased from Independent miners and truckers located in areas adjacent to the preparation plant itself. In the purchasing of raw coal for preparation Strohecker Coal Breaker provides employment for approximately 175 more people. Thus in overall employment the Strohecker Coal Breaker is responsible for the employment of 185 people. Coal prepared in this preparation plant is of the highest quality, and, is being mined in the Southern Anthracite fields where the largest reserve deposits of anthracite are known to exist. The Strohecker Coal Breaker owners must be congratulated on their faith in the future of Anthracite. They expended large sums of money in the construction of this plant and through the purchase of raw coal for preparation. The coal processed in this preparation plant is sold to a world-wide market.

## Apologize For Lateness Paper Now In Sixth Year

The editorial staff of Independent Coal Review wishes to offer a profound and abject apology to its readers, advertisers, the membership of Independent Miners and Associates, relatives and friends, for the extremely late publication of the May issue.

As you saw, when you finally received your copy, the format has been changed. This is in line with the announced policy of the Executive Committee of the IMA to expand the publication, to make it more effective in fighting for the rights of the independents and to enlarge the newspaper to include pertinent

information that was not possible under the old format.

Beginning with the May issue we have increased the publication to eight pages, lengthened each page an additional two inches, changed our masthead, the method of folding the paper and placed the address space on the first page rather than the last one.

With this issue we also have enlarged the space given our advertisers. Previously a one inch ad was just that. One inch from border to border. Under the new program each advertiser will receive a full one inch of "copy" inside the ad borders. We feel that this will make a much better presentation of each advertising copy and will give more lineage to our old advertisers who have been with us since the first publication.

Then too we are going to attempt to have more than one photograph in each issue. In addition to the usual front page picture of an IMA operation we hope to have additional pictures inside showing other phases of Independent Miners and Associates plants plus photographs of the officers of the association plus members of top-ranking committees.

Again we offer our apologies for the last publication of the May issue. The extremely technical problems involved, not to mention the editorial content, were just too much for us to cope with in so short a time and then there had to be additional longer size paper purchased from jobbers for the new style publication.

The little figure "6" on our masthead has  
(Continued on Page Two)

## INDEPENDENT COAL REVIEW

Vol .6—No. 1 June 1962 Pottsville, Pa.

Published monthly by Independent Miners and Associates by and for the Independents of the coal fields.

Room 406, Masonic Building, Pottsville, Pa.

EDITOR: Clyde L. Machamer.

OFFICERS: Clyde L. Machamer, Reinerton, president; Andrew J. Drebitko, West West Terrace, vice-president; Joseph T. Walacavage, New Minersville, treasurer; James W. Thompson, Tower City, secretary.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: John Bernitsky, Middleport; Kenneth Heiser, Schuylkill Haven; Charles Faust, Muir; Franklin I. Miller, Tremont; Herman Morgan, Williamstown; William Parker, Jr., Muir; William Parulis, Llewellyn; Leon Richter, Tremont; Anthony Weisacosky, Pottsville. Plus officers of Independent Miners and Associates.

BENEFICIAL AND WELFARE FUND: Clyde L. Machamer, Reinerton; Robert Rissinger, Millersburg and Leo Strenkoski, Minersville.



## From The President's Desk

June is traditionally the month of brides. It is also the month of graduation from elementary, high school and college.

Independent Miners and Associates wishes to take this opportunity to convey expressions of congratulations and good luck to all regional graduates, especially the sons and daughters of IMA members and its affiliates.

We sincerely hope that among the male graduates there will be a goodly number who will go on to higher education and would like to believe that several will take mining-engineering courses and then return here to their home area to assist their fathers in the mining industry.

Despite what certain individuals and organizations may say we wish to tell the current high school graduates that the "coal region is not dead". True it was very sick for a long time but now, thanks to the independent movement, it is on its way back. There is a good living to be made in the mining, preparation and marketing of Anthracite coal. Many of our 1962 graduates of both high school and college have had their education financed by the coal business and it will continue to make just returns for what is put into it.

Congratulations again and IMA will welcome any graduate with a knowledge of mining, especially in the engineering field.

## Polyethylene Film Seals Mine Stoppings

One of the newest applications for polyethylene film, the versatile plastic which has found an ever increasing utility in many fields, is its use as a seal over stoppings in coal mines.

In its Robena No. 3 mine in Greensboro, Pa., U. S. Steel Corp. is experimentally trying 6-mil clear Durethene polyethylene film, a product of the Plastic Div., Koppers Co., Inc., to limit air leakage through metal stoppings. About 100 ft. of the Durethene film is used to cover each stopping.

## Useful Tips For Homemakers

Under this column Independent Coal Review will present tips on house care, cleaning, washing, problems of children, etc. every month.

We will welcome any items from mothers and wives on short-cuts or improvements in housekeeping they may have learned.

Please send all suggestions to Independent Coal Review, care of Independent Miners and Associates, Masonic Building, Second and West Norwegian St., Pottsville.

To stop odor when cooking cabbage or cauliflower, place a piece of bread in the uncovered pot.

Keep flowering house plants out of drafts and never put them on top of radiators for both the continual steady stream of air from one direction and the heat will kill them.

If you want to serve festive holiday fruit drinks in frosted glasses dip the rims of the glasses in lemon juice and then in confectioner's sugar. Then put the glasses in a refrigerator for a half hour to "set the frosting."

On rainy days when children must remain inside the house you can keep them occupied with home-made modeling clay. Merely moisten a cup of salt in a cup of flour with water that has been tinted with food coloring.

Soak rubber sink or bath mats in a weak solution of bleach and water for a couple of hours to remove grime and stain.

## Chocolate Cake Very Popular

If apple pie and coffee is the great and most popular dessert then it can truly be said that this is followed very closely by chocolate cake because everyone regardless of age likes chocolate cake.

An easy recipe contains two cups of flour, three-fourths of a cup of cocoa, two cups of sugar, a half a teaspoon of salt, two teaspoons of baking powder and one teaspoon of baking soda. Sift all these ingredients together and then mix by hand and add two eggs, one cup each of milk and coffee and a half of a cup of Wesson oil.

Put everything into one bowl and then again mix by hand into a very thin batter. Place in two nine-inch pans and bake for 25 minutes to a half hour in an oven at 375 degrees.

## Asks Extension Hauling Rights

A Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Examiner is scheduled to conduct hearings in the Schuylkill County Court House June 19 and 20 on an application for a certificate to haul coal from regional mining operations to Souderton, Tylersport, Woxall and Salfordville, all in Montgomery County, plus points in Bucks, Philadelphia, Chester and Delaware Counties.

The petition is that of Raymond B. Long Inc. who asks for a PUC amendment of his current hauling certificate to permit him to haul coal from Colonial Collieries, Natalie; Lehigh Valley Coal Sales, Hazeton; Lehigh Navigation Coal Company, Coaldale; Reading Anthracite Company, St. Nicholas; Oak Hill Colliery, Minersville and M. A. Hanna Colliery, Williamstown.

He is asking permission to haul coal from mines and collieries in Carbon, Luzerne, Schuylkill, Northumberland, Dauphin Counties.

## Independent Miners and Associates Open Forum

The Pottsville office of Independent Miners and Associates located in the Masonic Building, Second and W. Norwegian St., Pottsville, is desirous of furnishing the ultimate in service to members of IMA and our affiliates.

Any questions, problems relative to compensation, insurance, work contracts, etc., in fact just anything and everything that pertains to the independent mining industry are welcome. You may receive needed answers through Independent Coal Review by directing your queries to the IMA office or through Charles Leininger, of Tremont, traveling representative of IMA who periodically visits operations.

It is required that the name and address of the writer be affixed to the questions. However, on request, we will eliminate your name and substitute initials, in furnishing the answers.

Any questions of a personal nature may be directed in person to any officer or the IMA for a verbal or written reply.

For those questions to be answered through Independent Coal Review we will reinstitute our "question box" who proved so popular with our former publication.

## Apologies For Lateness

(Continued From Page Two)

a special significance for with this issue we mark the sixth year of publication. We believe we have grown in the past six years and the new size and format of the paper tends to prove it.

With increased pages we will be urgently in need of news so any item covering construction or remodeling of plants, mines, etc., sons or daughters entering military service, in fact any item of interest to our industry will be most appreciated. Please arrange to have all items for publications in the IMA office in the Masonic Building, Pottsville, no later than the 24th day of the month immediately preceding publication.

## 1,000 Ride Old Mine "Lokie"

An old colliery lokie, rebuilt and redecorated for the Pioneer Tunnel Project, a new tourist attraction, at Ashland, got its first workout on June 10.

More than 1,000 persons rode over the 90 foot roadbed, with John Riley serving as engineer. Stuart Goyne, president of the tunnel project served as porter. On each ride six to eight persons, young and old, crowded into the fireman's side of the cab.

## IMA Representatives Attend Symposium On Mine Drainage

Representatives of the independent mining industry of the Anthracite fields participated in the National Symposium on mine drainage in Pittsburgh, Penna., June 11 to 14.

One of the co-sponsors of the conference was Independent Miners and Associates.

Representing the local area were: Clyde L. Machamer, president, of Reinerton; Andrew Drebitko, vice-president, West West Terrace; Joseph Walacavage, treasurer, New Minersville; James W. Thompson, secretary, Tower City; John Bernitsky, Middleport; Herman Morgan, Williamstown, William Parulis, Llewellyn, Robert Rissinger, Millersburg and Leon Richter, of Tremont, all of Independent Miners and Associates.

Clarence Kashner, William Heitzman and Robert Whitmer, all of Shamokin, representing the independent affiliates of the Northumberland County area.



## Compensation Awards for Men Who Suffered Heart Attacks

Independent Coal Review believes the following article from the Wall Street Journal would be of interest to all mine owners and operators.

Written by Kenneth G. Slocum it deals with heart attacks suffered by workers both on and off their jobs and the relationship of compensation payments due to these attacks.

The article says:

If a worker is stricken with a heart ailment at home on his day off, returns to work and dies of a heart attack, can his company be held financially responsible for his death? If a boss berates an employee for a mistake, can his company be held accountable for a subsequent heart attack?

In recent rulings, state courts have decided that the answer to all questions is yes. The verdicts point up an important trend: Far more frequently nowadays courts are ruling that some heart attacks are "job accidents" for which companies are financially responsible under workmen's compensation laws. Such decisions carry highly significant implications for industry; if business is forced to assume accountability for a large number of the 920,000 lives lost annually because of heart disease, the load could become staggering.

Already, the trend has pushed up rates that insurance companies charge employers for workmen's compensation coverage. It also is causing some companies to shy away from hiring or retaining cardiac cases; to better spot heart defects in employees and applicants, many concerns are intensifying their heart examination procedures. Some companies also are stepping up their own research into heart disease and its detection, hoping for findings that will help them fend off attacks among employees.

Workmen's compensation laws differ by states but in general they are designed to compensate workers or their dependents for death or disability from accidental injury or diseases arising from employment. The size of death and disability payments also varies by states; payments usually are based on the number of dependents or level of pay or both. About 80% of the nation's workers, hourly and salaried employees alike, are covered by workmen's compensation, according to Donald

Ream, workmen's compensation consultant with the U. S. Department of Labor.

There is nothing new about workmen's compensation awards for heart attacks connected with plant explosions and major production accidents. But company-retained doctors say there is a sharp upturn in awards for workers felled by heart attacks where only tenuous connections can be found with their jobs.

No national figures on workmen's compensation awards for heart attacks are available to support this contention. But in the few states where awards are tabulated by the type of injury or disease, the statistics clearly indicate the trend.

Dr. Leon J. Warshaw, medical director of Paramount Pictures Corp. and United Artists Corp. in New York, says that a third company for which he is a consultant paid out \$120,000 in 1961, through its insurance program, for heart cases under workmen's compensation. Says Dr. Warshaw: "That's more than the company paid out in any single prior year for all workmen's compensation cases combined. Formerly, heart cases accounted for only a tiny percent of the total."

A notable example of the trend toward adjudging more heart attack cases compensable, several company medical directors believe, is a decision handed down by the New Jersey Supreme Court, granting \$18,347 to the widow of a laborer employed in a New Jersey plant of Ford Motor Co. The award, in which the Supreme Court overruled decisions by the New Jersey Division of Workmen's Compensation, the county court and the appellate court, "is regarded by many as the most lenient heart attack decision ever made in the state," says Thomas Franklin, acting director of the workmen's compensation division. Such decisions by high courts establish patterns that workmen's compensation commissions tend to follow.

In this case, the worker, a 41-year-old six-footer weighing 200 pounds, had suffered chest pains and other complaints periodically over two years. Doctors diagnosed the trouble as "angina pectoris" and "coronary insufficiency," according to court records. While at home one Sunday, the worker suffered an attack which the family physician diagnosed as coronary insufficiency, the records relate. On Monday, the worker remained at home but on Tuesday he returned to his Ford job which, among things, required him to lift barrels of chemicals with a block and tackle. Returning from work that day, he appeared to his wife to be in "awful pain" and was taken to a hospital. He died of a heart attack 50 minutes after admission.

### Specialists Disagree

Two specialists in internal medicine, one appearing for Ford and the other for the widow, disagreed on the relationship of work to the employee's death. One said that the testimony in the case indicated the worker suffered a severe attack on Sunday at home and it persisted until his death; thus, this doctor concluded, there was no casual rela-

tionship between the work and the man's death. The second doctor termed the man's work "a major contributing factor" to the fatal attack.

"We are convinced," Justice John Francis wrote for the New Jersey Supreme Court majority, "that the series of exertions (in his job) so acted on the (worker's) seriously diseased heart as to join with it to an appreciable extent in hastening the fatal attack." Comments Mr. Franklin of the New Jersey Division of Workmen's Compensation: "This and other recent decisions indicates it is no longer necessary to show that unusual strains are involved in order to succeed in a New Jersey heart attack case."

In a recent decision involving Mesta Machine Co. of Pittsburgh, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania held the company financially responsible in the case of an employee who died of a heart attack after being treated for a virus. The 45-year-old employee, who operated a steel chipping machine, suffered nausea, diarrhea and pains of the chest and stomach shortly after arriving on his job, according to court records. He had been under his doctor's care for a virus during the previous week and an attending nurse at the company, suggesting he still had it, gave him something to settle his stomach. The man died of a heart attack a short time later as a taxi was taking him home.

Said the Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision: "Here death was directly attributable to the neglect of the attendant in not providing proper medical care, a duty the employer

(Continued On Page Four)

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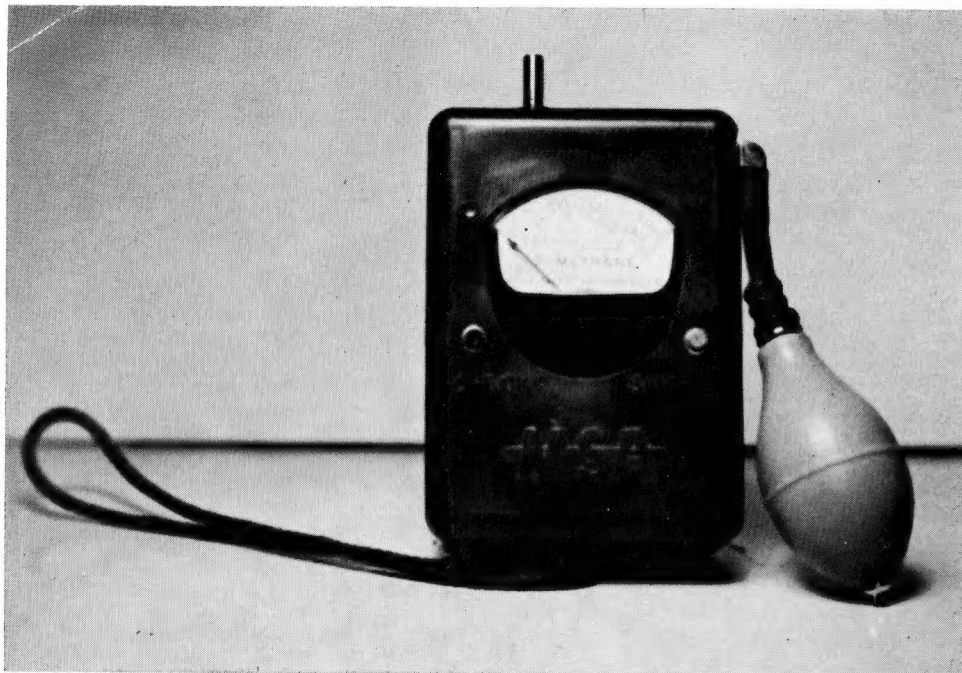
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Inquiries as to the supplier, etc. will be answered promptly when received at this office.

## Compensation Awards

(Continued On Page Three)

had agreed to assume. We believe the death of the decedent was sufficiently unforeseen, fortuitous and sudden to be considered as an industrial accident arising out of the course of employment and thus compensable under the Workmen's Compensation Act."

The Pittsburgh District Superior Court, commenting on the ruling, said in part: "As far as we have been able to ascertain, this gives a meaning to 'accident' not before attributed to it either in workmen's compensation cases or accident insurance cases. . . . It opens a whole new field of workmen's compensation law, which undoubtedly will result in an unlimited number of cases involving employees who have been assisted by their employers after they become ill from natural causes. . . ."

A law firm for which Dr. Warshaw is a consultant recently was held responsible for a non-fatal heart attack suffered by one of its messengers after a supervisor had bawled out the 52-year-old man for delivering wrong papers. An appellate court held that casti-

gating the employee and calling him "stupid" in front of associates produced great embarrassment and agitation which resulted in a heart attack after the employee returned home, Dr. Warshaw relates. The employee is now drawing disability benefits.

"These court decisions worry us for two reasons," says Dr. Carl U. Dernehl, assistant medical director of Union Carbide Corp. "For one thing, we don't think they are based on sound medical opinion; it has been shown that only in the rarest of circumstances is there relationship between a heart attack and work. Secondly, the court decisions are putting cardiacs out of jobs. I know of industries that are no longer taking back their own cardiacs because of their growing liability for future attacks."

Dr. Warshaw, referring to the company which last year paid out \$120,000 for cardiac cases, says that, as a result of these awards,

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"the company recently called in its personnel men and announced a new policy of not hiring persons who have had heart attacks and of doing everything possible to get known cardiacs already employed out of the company."

Bell Telephone of Pennsylvania, which formerly checked its employees' hearts only by the relatively routine method of taking electrocardiograms before and after exercise, is now going a step further. In a pending experiment, for instance, fully-equipped telephone linemen, their chests taped with heart-monitoring electrodes such as those used on Astronauts, one by one will dig in their spikes and scurry up a pole; as they climb, electrical impulses representing the action of their hearts will be flashed by a wallet-sized radio transmitter to a nearby electrocardiograph, which will record the impulses graphically. Bell doctors clustered around the graph thus will be able to watch the effects of the strains on the climbing linemen's hearts.

The test will be given other Bell employees, executives included, as they are performing their respective jobs. The company has been experimenting with the radio electrocardiogram equipment for about four months and has been favorably impressed with it. "In five employees," says Dr. Robert S. Ayerle, Bell of Pennsylvania's medical director, "we have picked up abnormalities of heart action at the height of exercise, while standard electrocardiograms prior to and following exercise were perfectly normal. We're confident that in some of these hidden cases, prompt treatment will prevent attacks that otherwise might have occurred."

## Research Makes Good Start

The Office of Coal Research, in the light of the projects already announced, is making an encouraging start on the task of assisting coal set out for it by the Congress. With funds and time—both of which it will be hoped will be forthcoming—carrying out even the initial program would mean a big boost for coal in the form of help in production and processing, and equally or more importantly in the development of present markets and the creation of new.

One of the most-interesting projects on the OCR schedule is research into ways and means of producing generally competitive synthetic gas and oil from coal. Even a cursory look at the tonnage of coal equivalent now represented by oil and gas shows how big the prize is—good reason for pressing forward on this front, as well as on all others.

It becomes clearer day by day that research has the potential for bringing about benefits to coal immeasurably beyond those already received from past efforts. Along with encouraging outside agencies to do more, coal also should step up its own program—and soon—to a level in line with the opportunities ahead.

## One Hand Gives, Other Takes

Coal men probably can find it easy to conclude that the trouble with government—particularly the federal government—is that while it gives with one hand it takes away with the other. As a case in point, the government recently came out for coal pipelines (and thus by inference pledged itself to help in the entire field of transportation charges). At the same time it boosted one of coal's most-troublesome competitors — imported residual oil—by increasing the quota 10%. And the administration is bearing down hard on a foreign-trade program that could involve more oil into the U. S. for goods going out. So, a question: Will the new import quota stick? The previous ones haven't.



## Don't Lose SS Benefits Through Failure To File Applications

Do not risk losing cash benefits from social security merely by failing to apply for them. Many workers are doing just that. Those who have long-standing disabilities of a serious nature and who have not applied for disability benefits may be depriving themselves and their families of much needed income. The actual point at which money is lost forever occurs at 18 months after a disability has become severe enough to prevent one from engaging in any type of gainful work. No loss of benefits is possible if a person files his application within 18 months after the onset of his disability.

Loss of benefits is only one reason why an application should be filed within the 18-month period mentioned. The second reason, and one of immediate importance, is that after June 30, 1962, the law will not permit the establishment of a disability more than 18 months prior to the date the application is filed. When the disability provision became a part of social security law, it was felt that a reasonable period should be allowed those persons of long-standing disabilities to establish the exact time that the disability began. It was also realized that medical evidences become extremely difficult to obtain for treatment received many years ago, that short periods of trial employment are hard to explain when the employer is no longer in business. These, and many other reasons, made it necessary to establish a time limitation on the date in which a disability could be established for social security purposes.

It is commonly believed that the only thing that can be lost by delaying the actual filing of an application is the benefits themselves. However, two additional important factors enter the picture. (1) The amount of benefits depend upon a worker's average earnings. The higher the average, the higher the payments. Since the years in which a worker has established with social security that he is disabled are not considered in this average, it can be easily seen that it is to the worker's advantage to have all years of disability established—not just the last 18 months. (2) In order to draw benefits at all, a worker must establish that he had worked at least 5 out of the 10 years just before the onset of his disability. Therefore, if by law, a person cannot establish a disability more than 18 months before application, it is quite possible that a worker with many years of disability, would not qualify at all. For example, a worker, disabled since 1952 files application for disability benefits on July 2, 1962. Under the law, he is permitted to only go back as far as January 1961, to establish



The above photo is of Hegins Mining Co. on Sherman Mountain an Independent Anthracite operation situated in the Southern Anthracite Field. The mine presently provides steady employment for approximately 32 men with plans for increasing employment to about 40 men as development warrants.

This operation and employees are affiliates of Independent Miners and Associates and an integral, important part of this vital segment of the economy in Pennsylvania. The Anthracite produced by Hegins Mining is purchased by various Independent preparation plants situated in the immediate area. After the most careful preparation (removing impurities and sizing properly) the Anthracite is then marketed in the Continental United States and Canada and shipped overseas to markets in various parts of the world.

The stable employment provided at this operation and money expended for necessary supplies and materials channels thousands of dollars every week into our every day business world. Indirectly this operation, as do all other Independent operations, affects hundreds of other workers through purchases of supplies, clothing, food, homes, automobiles, washers, toasters, television, radios, etc.) Banking institutions are materially affected by large outlays of cash by Independents.

The operation itself makes use of large quantities of steel rails, sheet iron, conveyors, miles of metal pipe, miles of electric wire, electric motors, vast amounts of explosive materials, nails, lumber, mine cars and wheels, roller bearings, greases, oils and gas, trucks, tires, replacement parts, etc. to mention some items purchased that have a decided impact on our economy and business in general. The employment these purchases provide indirectly is of paramount importance to Pennsylvania and America. Business for railroads and jobs for their employees, to individual truckers and large truck concerns hauling prepared coal to a consuming public, has tremendous impact, dollar wise, on many areas. Banking institutions have found loans to Independent operators to be a sound business deal and have expanded their credit tremendously.

This is a part of the Independent Industry. With the increase in size of Independent Coal Review we hope to publish pictures monthly of Independent operations with a short history on location and employment in order to enlighten our readers and the general public to an active, advancing Industry.

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disability. Therefore, social security must use the ten year period from January 1951 to January 1961 to determine if he has the necessary 5 years' work. In this case, the worker does not have the necessary work because he has not been able to work since

1952. No payments would be due him.

If you are so disabled that you are unable to work, get in touch with your Social Security District Office as soon as possible and let them help you file your application. You may lose money if you do not.

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## IMA and Anthracite Tri-County Independents Protests National Coal Pipe Line Idea

Listed below in its entirety is the presentation filed by Clyde L. Machamer, president, of Independent Miners and Associates before the United States Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce on May 21, 1962.

The presentation incorporated the protests of IMA and The Anthracite Tri-County Independent Miners, Breakermen and Truckers Association to the proposed amendment to the Interstate Commerce Act to grant coal pipe line carriers the right of eminent domain and other purposes.

The testimony is:

Statement Of

Independent Miners and Associates  
and

The Anthracite Tri-County Independent  
Miners, Breakermen and Trucks Associations  
S. 3044

In re: Proposed amendment to the Interstate Commerce Act to grant any carrier of coal by pipe line, subject to any of the provisions of Part 1 of the Act, the right of eminent domain, and for other purposes.

Filed with the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee of the Senate of the United States May 21, 1962.

To the Honorable Warren C. Magnuson, chairman and members of the Interstate Foreign Commerce Committee of the Senate of the United States:

Your Committee is presently conducting hearings on S. 3044 wherein it is proposed that the Interstate Commerce Act be amended to grant the right of Eminent Domain to certain people aspiring to build a pipe line to carry a coal-slurry to certain areas on the Eastern seaboard of the United States initially from a proposed introduction point somewhere in West Virginia.

My name is Clyde L. Machamer. I am President of Independent Miners and Associates and also the Anthracite Tri-County Independent Miners, Breakermen and Truckers Association. I appreciate the opportunity to appear here before this Committee and make a statement in opposition to the passage of this proposed legislation in the hope that your Committee will give this statement complete consideration.

The Independent Mining Industry, in the Anthracite regions of Pennsylvania, has heavy concentration in the counties of Dauphin, Schuylkill, Northumberland and Columbia. This Industry embraces men mining Anthracite, men trucking Anthracite to preparation plants and men engaged in the preparation of Anthracite for market. The Industry provides employment for approximately seven thousand (7000) workers and represents an Industry in the counties mentioned grossing approximately fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) annually and produces

and markets in excess of four million (4,000,000) tons of coal annually. This production, 95% plus deep mined, has a tremendous effect on the economy of certain areas of Pennsylvania on the asset side and it must follow that the income realized has a decided impact on State and National levels. No one else has been authorized to speak in their behalf.

In view of the possibility of detrimental effects of the proposed legislation S. 3044 upon small mines we must vigorously oppose this legislation. In recent years those proposing the coal-slurry pipe line have tried, with same small success, to get the right of Eminent Domain passed in several State Houses. Despite the evident tremendous pressure in some of the State Houses and the attempt to have this right granted to a select group of individuals has not proved successful. Several of the State Houses, in their wisdom, have given serious consideration to the measure and has disapproved the granting of this right. It should be clearly evident that the State Houses not granting this right have weighed the assets and liability side of the question and must have concluded that the liability side far outweighed the asset side and thus did not pass the measure. Certainly the wise people holding office in the several States took into consideration the matter of jobs and economics before making any decision. This Committee can do no less.

The right of Eminent Domain grants (right to appropriate property necessary to public use with reasonable compensation) to the builders of pipe lines, electric lines, railroads, etc. The granting of Eminent Domain in the instance proposed in this particular legislation in our estimation would be an abuse of this right. Abuse of the right because in this instance it would be granted to a select few producers who would transport a slurry solution to a small captive market. Certainly there is no provision in the proposed legislation that gives guarantee to all producers of coal the right to use the line as proposed. If this is true, and we believe it to be, this would have a serious regressive effect on areas that can stand no more backward steps in an area of employment or business. We believe this Committee must give this the most serious consideration. We further believe the Committee must refuse to grant this right under the system of conditions as proposed.

To substantiate our claims that the proposed legislation would favor just a few producers and consumers this Committee need only refer to previous testimony as to just who will build the line and where the line will go. Initially the line is proposed to be started in West Virginia and to traverse from there to the Eastern seaboard. Initially, and, we believe permanently, the line as

proposed is intended for the transporting of a pulverized bituminous product. I think this statement can be borne out if this Committee will refer to page 37 of the voluminous book published by the Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations in the House of Representatives of the 87th Congress, Second Session. At this particular portion of this now public matter a Mr. George A. Lamb, Director of the Office of Coal Research, stated that "slurry pipe lines were under research but utilization of the same on behalf of Anthracite although being considered is not settled because of additional grinding problems." De believe that the proposed line is furthest from the minds of Mr. Lamb and the vested group proposing the same not only because of a pulverizing problem but also because of the fact that there is no centralized control of supplies. There is also another point that must be stressed before this committee and that is the abrasive qualities of Anthracite that has never been solved. Certain large producers in the Anthracite areas have many years ago tried to introduce the Anthracite product to consuming areas via a pipe line, but, they were unable to contain Anthracite in pipe systems in a form that was nonabrasive enough to warrant the building of such a line. Thus this legislation, as proposed, would have the same effect as the indiscriminate use of a headsmen's axe in eliminating the countless thousands of fine Americans engaged at work in the Independent mines in the Anthracite and ultimately the Bituminous areas.

This is power politics at work, pure and simple, and will be opposed bitterly by all small producers, and, rightfully so. These gainfully employed workers have every right to fear the results if this legislation is passed. We are aware, as we have previously stated, that the proponents of this legislation were unsuccessful in their attempts to acquire the rights, now proposed, in the Houses of several States, and that they have now shifted their battleground to the Federal level with the feeling that their pressure groups can secure a more willing ear at this level, and, if successful will supersede all State regulations.

It is easy for the Anthracite people to project their thinking into the future and make a good guess as to just what the consequences could be, if this legislation is enacted into law. In Anthracite today the finer sizes of Anthracite produced is sent to steel companies, power companies, zinc companies, American cyanamide and numerous other industrial plants. The amounts marketed annually in these areas will run into a figure of about two million tons. If the Anthracite area were to lose this market it could mean the loss of many jobs that our areas can ill afford to lose today. It is not too hard to imagine that, if the proposed line were built, certain consumers now using these fine sizes of Anthracite presently, would, if the slurry pipe line were to materialize, immediately contract to purchase this material. Thus, we would see a further loss of market to Anthracite and the further wholesale loss of jobs. In addition railroads and trucking firms now hauling this Anthracite to these markets would automatically suffer loss of business and thus further unemployment would accrue to them as it would to businesses furnishing them with supplies and equipment. This would be at complete variance with the principles espoused by the incumbent administration, which, has implied

(Continued On Page Seven)



## IMA and Anthracite

(Continued From Page Six)

that all assistance must be given to areas of chronic unemployment in order that they might improve their position economically. It would be at variance with the incumbent administrations releases, in as much as, it would in effect take food out of the mouths of people in other areas. This will not answer the problem in the light that it must be met. To give this right, and, boost the economy in certain areas to the detriment of other areas that need help to the greatest degree, is unfair, unwise and inhuman.

This Industry is not antagonistic to progress. Progress has been the keynote to the advances made by the Independent Mining Industry in the Anthracite and Bituminous areas. Progress, and, looking to the future, has provided the Independent Mining Industry with the incentive to produce coal and market it after proper preparation, to a consuming public at prices that make it competitive to any other fuel. Modern mining methods, modern transportation and the most modern preparation facilities are all assets that the Independent Mining Industry makes use of and in a large sense have brought into being. The Independent Mining Industry has regenerated areas that were long ago left desolate and, as some thought, worthless. The Independents have with initiative and perseverance and an intense belief in the future of our coal areas revitalized the areas in which they work. They have ability and know-how and applied themselves diligently to the job of making a living in areas that were ravaged and depleted and left in a state of despondency and decay. We are amazed that individuals who previously wrote these areas and these people off their books would now try to further deter these areas by pressing for legislation that could do them further harm.

Certainly if the proposed slurry line would be of any great advantage to our country as a whole we would be the first to support such a proposal. However, we believe this Committee must make a most thorough study as to the merits of this proposed line before they can conscientiously act upon it. We have many times urgently requested congressional investigations into the coal areas in order that the sage congressional people might enhance their wisdom and be enlightened into many of the conditions existing in the coal area today that are kept from public attention. We reiterate this request to this Committee here today and urge that the Committee appoint a special investigating committee to delve into the coal areas and find just what effects, good or bad, the line as proposed might have. We contend the statements of previous witnesses to the effect this line would be conducive to an expansion of coal's markets is erroneous, irresponsible utterance solely for the purpose of enlisting support.

Replacing a product in a market with a

different, but comparable one, produced in another area, other than the one now supplying a consumer, is simple displacement of jobs. Although it's doubtful whether more employment would be achieved in another part of our country with acquisition of the rights as envisioned there can be no doubt of detrimental effects on other areas. The opportunity for small Independent producers to use the proposed line is about as remote as is the ability of any of the members of this Committee, or myself, to pick up this building with our God-given physical strength and place it elsewhere. To deter, yes to eventually eliminate, an Industry which is a wonderful tribute to our American free-enterprise system, and way of life, would be to the everlasting shame of anyone contributing to that end. The Independents are not now seeking, and never have sought, active Federal participation to increase our employment. This the Independents have accomplished and expanded on their own. It is thus only fair that we ask the Federal Government not to condone a procedure, nor grant a right, that could eliminate employment, security, serenity of mind and the sustenance for families that helps provide the bonds to keep them as one.

To summarize we could say:

1. The proposal at present could only help a few centralized producers.
2. Only a few restricted, but large, consumers would benefit.
3. The general public would not benefit
4. All segments producing coal would not have equal opportunity.
5. Anthracite could suffer a disastrous blow.
6. Independents could face virtual elimination.
7. Economy would not expand, gains in one area would be offset by another's loss.
8. Federal bureaucracy would be expanded against the wishes of individual States.
9. Dependent industries, such as railroads,

trucking concerns and numerous diversified business concerns providing supplies or services would suffer a crushing blow.

10. A thorough study is imperative before hasty enactment and later sorrow.

These things are intricate parts of the issues involved, and, while not all encompassing, give a general idea, and, therefore, our prayer is for your earnest and humane consideration of this statement and that the proposed legislation be rejected.

I request this statement be recorded as being filed with the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee of the Senate of the United States and that the statement in its AND THE ANTHRACITE TRI-COUNTY INDEPENDENT MINERS, BREAKERMEN AND TRUCKERS ASSOCIATIONS, entirety be read into the record.

Respectfully submitted,  
INDEPENDENT MINERS AND ASSOCIATES  
by Clyde L. Machamer, President.

## Car Exhaust Control Planned

The March, 1962, issue of The Local Government Newsletter reports that automobile manufacturers will install fume control devices in all cars and trucks produced in this country, beginning with the 1963 models. It is noted that these devices will catch 40% of the smog-causing fumes and return the fumes to the automobile's engine. Without these devices, the fumes are released into the air by the forward motion of the car.

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## Start Mine Sealing In Penna.

A campaign to close abandoned coal-mine openings is being conducted in Pennsylvania to prevent a recurrence of the type of tragedy which claimed the lives of two young boys in an abandoned clay mine in Clearfield County last January.

The 15th, 18th and 24th districts are participating, each in charge of its own inspector. Mine inspectors have been appealing to the general public to report any known abandoned coal-mine openings in these areas. In the meantime, the Wilmore Coal Co. of Windber, Pa., has begun a voluntary project of blasting shut all unused coal-mine openings on its properties which create a hazard.

## Gas on Increase in Deep Mining

The emphasis on gas resulting from the increased use of the continuous miner continues to increase in deep mining. As a result, there have been some real advances not only in understanding of the why and how of gas but also in how to take care of it safely and effectively. And as the problem has become more critical the need for being sure that steps taken bring the expected results also has become more critical. For instance, a bleeder is useless unless it is planned so that there always will be a pressure differential sufficient for the required air flow. And so on. As noted, if a step is taken, there should be a parallel one having as its purpose seeing that the desired goal is reached.

**Anthony Malho Coal Breaker**  
Lavelle, Pa.

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## 1962 Seen Good for Petroleum

Prospects for the petroleum industry in 1962 were seen by authoritative observers at the beginning of the year as "especially good" for Pennsylvania and the nation.

These optimistic predictions, however, were tempered by two questions: Will there be a sharp increase in oil imports, and will there be a nationwide steel strike?

The steel strike factor was eliminated at the end of the year's first quarter when management representatives of the industry, and the steel labor union's wage policy committee agreed on a contract. The settlement was hailed by President of the United States Kennedy as "obviously non-inflationary" and one which "should provide a solid base for continued price stability."

Lee Rogers, Oil and Gas Journal writer, said that drilling "could be expected to increase two per cent over so-so operations in 1961." In the annual business review and forecast edition of the Oil City, Pa., Derrick, Rogers stated: "Everything points to a good year for general business in 1962 and the oil industry will enjoy a small share of the prosperity."

For Pennsylvania Rogers reported the Commonwealth's oil-industry prospects were brightened by stepped-up exploration activity and the outlook for stable Penn-Grade crude oil prices. (As reported in the March issue of Internal Affairs oil and gas possibilities in northwestern Pennsylvania where the oil industry was born 103 years ago are under scrutiny of the big oil companies again.)

New production is being found in the Appalachian region from West Virginia to Central New York. Through secondary recovery output is being increased in old areas with much more drilling being done in the deeper reservoir beds.

Drilling in Pennsylvania during 1961 included: 237 oil wells, 212 gas wells, and 77 dry holes for a total of 1,988,250 feet. There were 47 wildcats,\* and 15 of them were brought in as gas wells.

Intensive drilling plans have been announced for this year (1962) in Nebraska, the Arkansas-Oklahoma-Texas border areas, and northern California.

"It's safe to say that 1962 won't be the best year in oil-industry history. But construction and drilling plans so far announced, together with industry awareness that problems of oversupply and competition must be solved, should make 1962 an interesting and profitable year for oil."

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## Items for Publication Solicited

Putting out an eight-page paper of the size of Independent Coal Review every month is no easy task.

Both the editorial staff of Independent Coal Review and officials of Independent Miners and Associates are always on the look-out for news items worthy of print.

We will be most appreciative if members of IMA, advertisers, families and friends will send any items of news interest for publication.

Please send all items to Independent Miners and Associates, Masonic Building, Second and W. Norwegian St., Pottsville. Articles should arrive at the IMA office no later than the 24th of the month immediately preceding publication. In other words articles for the July issue of Independent Coal Review must be received at the IMA office no later than June 24.

We are especially interested in the proposed or actual construction of new facilities, remodeling of existing breakers, cleaning plants and mines, changes of ownership of operations, hiring of new foremen and supervisors, installation of new equipment, hiring of additional workers.

We are also interested in publishing personal family items such as children graduating from college, sons and daughters becoming engaged, married or entering the military services, acquisition of employment by children of members of IMA and its affiliates.

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